

getting married, but such was the case with the superintendent of the Brethren school in Dayton. May joy be their portion in the new relation.

The brethren in Dayton have disposed of their church property, and have secured a new place to hold services. We expect to learn more of the particulars soon.

The Vindicator leaves the matter of estimating the number who attended the yearly meeting of the Old Orders with the Lord.

John Brubaker, who was on the Old Order Standing Committee, died at the residence of Joseph Flory, on June 3d. His purpose was to remain in the valley some time, but he died and his remains were sent to his home in Roanoke county, Va., for interment.

That was a good article on Convention work by Bro. J. H. Worst, in No. 27, is the universal verdict of the EVANGELIST readers. Brother John come this way when the convention meets. There will be work for you to do.

Two more have been baptized in the Falls City, Neb., church, recently, and others have expressed their willingness to come.

Eld. E. L. Yoder has been asked to appear before a German Baptist Annual Meeting Committee, to convene in the Miami Valley in August, to testify against an expelled member.

The Milford Church has its say, this week, about the convention. Every one particularly concerned about this matter has had his say, and now all should be contented to let this matter rest.

Harvest is now engaging the attention of the people, and we believe, the brethren who write essays are busy too. But do not let the inside of the paper be wholly made up of selections.

Where is brother Swihart and his meeting at Auburn, Ind.? has he gone on a vacation till harvest is over?

The EVANGELIST is only 50 cents from now until the first of next year. This is very cheap still.

Bro. J. H. Knepper has been ordained to the full ministry. Bro. Mason was one who participated in the ceremony. We have not yet learned whom the other brethren were. The ceremony was very solemn, and when the gift, from his congregation was presented to him, he gave way to tears. It was one of the most handsome Bibles to be secured in Philadelphia, and was a most appropriate token of the esteem of the churches which he has so faithfully served for some time past. Bro. Knepper is doing a blessed work, and may divine grace be his staff through the coming years in which he can make himself useful in planting the feet of poor sinners upon Zion's pathway.

The Old Order Yearly Meeting has not found a place of meeting for next year. There is certainly no great amount of enthusiasm among them, or their meeting would not go begging.

Bro. F. H. Frame writes a letter in the spirit of meekness and brotherly love. How nice it would be if all our writers would write in a brotherly manner.

"The Truth Seeker," is the name of an infidel paper published in the east. Lately one of its correspondents has been studying Spiritualism in Boston, an exchange says, and the result as stated was, that the Boston Spiritualists were all infidels. We believe this is not true of Boston only, but of Spiritualists elsewhere. They are all almost or altogether infidels.

The United Brethren church seems to be preparing for a division. In a late issue of the Telescope, published at Dayton, there was a long article on the subject of where the church property would go, legally, in cases of contest that might follow such an event in the history of that church. At a late conference of the church, a few departures were made, and a division is likely to follow.

This is the salient part of the Vindicator's report of their Y. M.:

Messengers—Elders 38 in the full Ministry, 16 of the 2nd, and 7 in the first degree, with 6 to the visit.

These all selecting from the ordained Elders. When all had spoken their mind, there were 12 chosen for the Standing Committee, whose names appear upon the minutes. This body then selecting their officers, chose Bro. H. D. Davy Foreman, Bro. Aaron Frantz reading clerk, and Bro. Samuel Murray writing clerk with an assistant. Before this body were found ten queries,

two petitions, with many letters of greeting and one or two addresses to the Standing Committee. These queries were given to nine sub-committees, consisting of five allotted brethren taken from Elders and Ministers, who answered the queries in the fear of the Lord, and when brought before the assembly were disposed of in love and union to a general satisfaction to all.

The business of Tuesday was done in a brotherly way. This being the Council day in the open tent, for the most part the queries were disposed of almost by noon. The afternoon the report of the publishing agents came before the body and summarily given—a statement of which will be found upon the minutes.

Bro. Obed Snowberger, who has favored the EVANGELIST with an occasional article, has been sick for some time, but he is able to write again. May God bless him with restored health.

The Investigator for June is considerable tardy. Bro. Mason has been away on a preaching tour, and has not prepared the copy. Subscribers will please make a note of this, and forgive.

Sister Sigerfoose almost carried us away again on the wings of imagination.

Do what she will,
We cannot realize
Half she conceives
—the glorious vision flies.
Go where we may,
We cannot hope to find
The Truth, the Beauty
Pictured in her mind.

Still we are sure that Children's Day at Cassapolis was a very happy occasion.

The Convention and its Work.

I have been a silent looker-on concerning the National Convention of the Brethren church, and "while I was musing, the fire burned."—Psalms 39:3. Every issue of our church paper makes it more apparent that a convention, wherein the whole church is represented is a necessity. The simple fact that we have no system of co-operative church work, is itself enough cause for such a convention, whether or not the Brethren are ready for it. The two great necessities of the church are—1st, Union in Doctrine; 2nd, systematic co-operation. To reaffirm the Gospel alone as our only creed, is not necessary unless we have departed from it, or never wholly accepted all its teachings. To be united in doctrine involves to define what the Gospel does teach on all points where there is not complete union. A correct understanding of what is taught in the Gospel will bring us into the closest possible union in doctrine.

If the Gospel does not teach close communion, nor yet open communion, it does teach the communion of saints. If it does not teach that members of the church shall not belong to secret orders, it does most surely forbid swearing at all; and if our understanding is too imperfect to define positively what the Gospel does teach on any point, let the convention at least recommend that which is safe, a closer study of the Gospel, and "shunning the very appearance of evil."

2nd. Systematic co-operation, growing from a Gospel union in faith and doctrine is the great need of the church. We have one Head, Christ. We are one body (though many members), and each member should seek the welfare of every other member, and each needs the other's help. One body united in one doctrine, subject to one head, should be harmonious throughout, and labor for the edification of the body.

The right relation of the members of the body should be established and maintained according to the gospel, and a system of distributing the ministers among the several churches, so

that each church may be supplied, and each minister who is willing to devote himself to the high calling of the commission, may be supplied with a field of labor, and receive a support, as the "Priest who ministers at the altar," and so live of the gospel." 1 Cor. 9:13, 14. To accomplish this, the convention should reaffirm 1 Cor. 16:2 and adopt it for immediate and continuous practice, thus turning our debt and begging into a paid up cash system of the prosperity that God gives us.

And this would give a correct basis for future calculation. It is simply a fact that Brethren ministers cannot itinerate, (which is the most successful system of preaching the gospel) without the assurance of the necessities of life. From this fund a proportionate share could be devoted to home and foreign missions and all would fare similarly. Besides this, it would bind us together in the strongest possible brotherhood of churches.

The whole system based on the gospel plan of co-operation, indicated, would grow symmetrical; as the base which is the local church would expand and increase, our missions would grow also.

We have accepted Ashland College; it is doing good work and it is honest and right we should pay for it. A Brethren Publishing House with sufficient capacity to meet all the demands of the church in the way of books, papers, tracts, certificates, etc., and the New Testament inscribed on the back, "The Brethren's only Creed," and, if you please, the time of its adoption by the church. These are only some of the needs of the church which demand a convention.

JACOB W. BEER.

The Convention Matter at Milford.

To Brethren Church at large:—Whereas the National Executive Committee of the Brethren church selected Milford, Indiana, as a suitable place for holding a convention in September A. D. 1887, and

Whereas Milford church accepted the appointment, and has never officially declined to hold the convention, and,

Whereas certain confusion have occurred through correspondence—some of it authorized; some unauthorized—therefore,

Resolved, That it is the sense of this congregation that said convention should still be held here, and we hereby renew our acceptance of the appointment, and extend a hearty invitation to the brotherhood to hold it with us—but will also pledge ourselves to work in harmony with the church, wherever the convention may be held.

Done at a business meeting of the church in Milford, this 6th day of July A. D. 1887, and order sent to the BRETHREN EVANGELIST for publication.

JAMES SKELLY, Sec.

AN EXPLANATION.

Milford, Ind., July 7th, 1887.

I wish to say to the readers of the EVANGELIST that we believe all the members of Grace Church were willing to entertain the proposed convention, until the committee of this convention informed us that we should erect

a tabernacle to hold two thousand people, after this question came before our church, then some of our most worthy members hesitated, and at our regular church meeting, June 4th, the church appointed a committee of nine members, instead of seven as has been reported. This committee decided to welcome this convention if the National Committee would accept the two churches besides our own. But we were not willing to go to the expense of erecting an extra building to hold two thousand people. It was agreed by the church that this committee should report to the church the next day immediately after Sabbath School. Bro. Ridenour then called for this report to be read. It was read and by the request of this committee I send the decision to E. L. Yoder, chairman of committee.

They have now changed it to Ashland, Ohio. It does seem to me that all who once had belonged to A. M. should have learned a lesson before this. We do think it is uncalled for to go to the great expense of erecting an old fashion tabernacle when we have more convenient places which can be had for much less expense. I fear some would prefer the old rut.

JOHN DUBBS.

Sidney, Ind.

On June 19 and 20th our editor was with us and made many friends. He preached the gospel to us and we hope he will not forget it in the future. He promised to come again. Come Bro. Garber and we will do the best we can for you.

On Monday the 20th, we started for Pierceton, and there we were rained in and had to stay till the next day. So on the morning of the 21st, we started for a church near Warsaw, where we were to hold a short series of meetings. We continued till the forenoon of the 3rd inst. The people were busy in the harvest field, but still they would come to meeting. We commenced with four members and now we can count fourteen. Two still awaiting baptism, and more are waiting till we organize. That will be in three weeks from the 2nd of July, at 1 o'clock. Come and help us. The future prospects are good, although we had satan to contend with. Pray that we may all hold out faithful and at last gain a home in heaven. The cause is moving on. Praise the Lord.

J. H. PALMER.

A Pleasant Surprise.

June 25th was the 78th anniversary birthday of Eld. Geo. Wolf. His children, grandchildren, brethren sisters and friends, to the number of over thirty, completely surprised him in the evening by visiting him at his residence.

After congratulations, in which all united in wishing him the blessing of heaven, a scriptural lesson was read, prayers were offered, songs were sung, and a bountiful supper partaken of. We all separated to our homes, wondering if we would thus meet again.

Brother Brown's epistolary was gratefully received by all. We are thankful that he still remembers us in California, and we still hope to get to see and hear him preach again on our

coast. Also the editor's remarks in our behalf are not forgotten.

J. P. WOLFE.

Lathrop, Col.

One more sister was added to our number on the first Sunday in June. She came out from the strong hold of the German Baptists. She came fourteen miles and gave us her name and said she will tend our meeting whenever she could. She is the only member of the Brethren church near where she lives. She has been a consistent member of the German Baptist church for some years and said she loved that church still, but thought they had some laws that the Bible did not teach. I hope she may be faithful till Jesus comes.

Our young minister, Bro. A. F. Koontz, preached an able sermon on the first Sunday in June, the second sermon he ever preached. His services are very much needed.

JOS. BOWMAN.

The Brethren Church at South Haven, Kansas, at her quarterly council on Saturday, July 2nd, considered the importance of having our state represented at the National Convention at Ashland, O., on Sept. 21st, 1887, by personal delegates and requested our pastor, Bro. W. J. H. Bauman, to correspond with the churches in the state, soliciting them to assist in sending a delegate. Send contributions to F. C. Schaper, our State Treasurer, at Mulvane, Kans. Also their vote, representing their choice for delegate; also instructions to the delegate in reference to the Brethren's wants in Kansas, in missionary labor.

J. P. BLUE, Clerk.

Notice.

Members and friends of the brethren in California will please take notice, that all calls for preaching can be attended to and filled, by Bro. Richard Plummer, Lathrop, Cal. Those who wish to have a series of meetings held with them, should avail themselves of this opportunity. Address either Richard Plummer, or J. P. Wolfe, Lathrop, Cal.

J. P. W.

Report of the South Bend S. S.

The South Bend Sabbath School was organized on the 1st Sunday in January, and the following is a report for the six months ending July 1st:

Total attendance of January, 159. Total collection, \$2.76. January 27th, 1887, paid for secretary book, \$1.25. February, attendance 275; collection \$1.98. February 13th, paid for literature, \$1.00; treasurer's book 10 cts. March, attendance, 376; collection \$3.28. March, 27th, paid for literature, \$3.00.

April, attendance 237; collection \$3.53. May, attendance 564, collection \$3.97. May 29th, paid for literature \$6.56. May 29th, paid for cards \$1.85. June, attendance 309, collection \$2.86. June 12th, paid for cards 30 cts. Average attendance for each Sunday 78.

Total collection, \$18.20; total expense, \$14.06; remaining, \$3.94. GRACE B. KLINE, Sec.

Married.

At the residence of the bride's parents, July 4th, at 7 o'clock, a. m., by Rev. S. G. Grove, Mr. Silas Stouffer, to Sister Mary Leonard. May happiness and prosperity attend them through life.

By Eld. J. B. Wampler, July 3d, 1887, at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. Wm. Whited and Miss Ida May Rearick, both of Armstrong Co., Pa. May their's be a long and happy life. J. B. W.

By Rev. S. Kiehl, at 164 McClure St., Dayton, Ohio, July 3d, 1887, John F. Eversole, our Sabbath school superintendent, to Miss Susie E. Smith, of West Dayton. May theirs be a happy and prosperous voyage. S. K.